

# LOCAL I-S NEWS

*for department store workers*

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244

MARCH 1, 1955

## ABLE TO PAY RAISE, MACY ADMITS; BUT ASKS 'WHY?'

### Union Says Need Supports Demands

Macy's first reaction to the Union's demand for a ten cent an hour general wage increase, higher minimum wages and a reduction in hours from 40 to 35 per week was, "Why?"

The company's spokesman at the bargaining table, Mr. Fred Fischer, readily admitted that he was not denying that Macy's could well afford to pay for these necessary improvements. He just said he did not think they were "justified".

To straighten out Mr. Fischer's thinking—and the thinking of all the others who have an interest in the things for which we are fighting, we offer the Union's arguments behind the demand for a full and speedy settlement.

### A Raise

There are both specific and general reasons to support the Union's demand for a 10 cent an hour raise.

In the course of an interview with the Local I-S NEWS, Charlotte McGowan of the Flying Squad pointed to the fact that, "they say we make more money than other department store workers—but we are also more productive and work under greater pressure".

And Frank Monoca of the Tie Department said, "Of course we need a raise. There was a time when you could figure one week's pay to take care of the rent. You can't do that any more! Married people working in Macy's are afraid to have children and single people hesitate to marry because our jobs don't pay enough!"

Although Macy's argues the point in the hope of guaranteeing still fatter profits for themselves and their stockholders, it is still true that workers do have the right—and their Unions the responsibility—to do everything possible to improve their living standards. Macy's gives Local I-S credit

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STRATEGY MEETING. President Sam Kovenetsky, with Vice Presidents Phil Hoffstein on his Left and Bill Atkinson on his Right, meet to map the Union's next move in negotiations now in progress with Macy.

## Board Hears Reports on Merger and Organizing; Backs 'V-Plus' Stand

The Local I-S Executive Board at its regular meeting held on February 15th, heard President Sam Kovenetsky describe the merger agreement between the CIO and AFL as "top news along with Russia's change of Premiers and the evacuation of the Tachen Islands"; heard a report from Vice President Bill Atkinson on negotiations; listened intently as General Organizer George Gurian outlined campaign plans; approved the officers' actions in forcing Macy amendment of their "V-Plus" program; accepted a report

from the Political Action Committee; referred charges against two members to the Trial Committee; and enthusiastically heard reports of activity bearing on the good and welfare of the Union.

### Merger

After describing the advance towards CIO-AFL unity as top news along with developments on the international front, President Sam Kovenetsky declared that it merited the top spot because, "the economic consequences of the merger will resound throughout

the country. I welcome this move", the President said, "and I believe all workers will, so long as the agreement fully protects their rights—regardless of their race, color or creed.

"Naturally we will have to consider our own position in light of the new situation created by unity possibilities on the national union level."

The Board gave its unanimous approval to President Kovenetsky's recommendation that the officers meet with CIO's Executive

(Continued on page 3)

## CITY-WIDE FIGHT FOR \$1.25 MINIMUM NEARS AS CIO-AFL LEADERS ANSWER I-S CONFERENCE CALL

Mr. Max Greenberg, President of CIO's Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Workers Union and Mr. Paul Lafayette, Regional President of the AFL's Retail Clerks International Association have both accepted Local I-S President Sam Kovenetsky's bid to plan a city-wide conference in support of the fight for the \$1.25 an hour minimum wage and inclusion of retail workers under the provisions of the Federal Wage and Hour Act.

Announcing that his invitation had met with favorable response in both cases, President Kovenetsky said, "There is no doubt in my mind that a meeting of Mr.

Greenberg, Mr. Lafayette and myself can lay the groundwork for a really aggressive campaign on this important issue. Once we reach substantial agreement on objectives there is no reason why we cannot create a committee representative of our three unions which will work out the details of our campaign.

"As I see it, our job is to make every retail worker an active fighter for the \$1.25 minimum wage and, for his own protection, inclusion under the federal law.

"Our success will probably depend in a large measure on our ability to win the support of all

working people in the City of New York. Our planning committee will have the responsibility for organizing and dramatizing our fight.

"At the present time there is a Bill in the House of Representatives and two Bills in the Senate that merit vigorous support.

"There is not the slightest doubt in my mind that a campaign of this kind can not only achieve its objective, but can also serve to inspire the unorganized workers of our industry to a new respect for trade unionism."

A statement from the three leaders will follow their first meeting.

### Says Union Demands Are 'Not Justified'

Macy's does not deny that it can afford to pay its workers a wage increase. But, says the company's chief negotiator Fred Fischer, "I don't think an increase is justified to me or my company."

For almost three solid hours the company's spokesman displayed a callous indifference to the needs of the people who have made Macy's the "largest store in the world".

Assuming that a man in charge of labor relations should have some knowledge of the problems the workers under him face, Mr. Fischer disqualified himself as a bargainer. He sat only as the protector of Macy's profits and as a defender of the company's stockholders.

On the question of a general wage increase, Mr. Fischer remarked that, "We (Macy's) feel that we have discharged our financial and moral obligations to the people who work for us. I think that we are paying a good substantial wage—better than anyone else in the retail industry in the United States".

Ignoring the fact that higher minimum wages provide a greater degree of security for longer-service workers, Mr. Fischer attempted to short-circuit serious consideration of this demand with the comment that, "I don't know why you're concerned about the rate for people who don't yet even work in the store—it doesn't help your people".

His response to the Union's demand for a reduction in hours from 40 to 35 per week with no cut in take home pay was, "I don't understand why we have to be a pace-setter".

### Union Answers

With what some negotiators later described as "too much patience", the Union's representatives knocked down the company's arguments.

Said President Sam Kovenetsky, "We have asked for a ten cent an hour wage increase because the average wage in the store is far below the minimum needs of the workers, according to Department of Labor statistics.

"You say that because other department stores are paying sub-standard wages that we, too, must live on sub-standard pay. Well, Mr. Fischer, you try to live on \$55 a week. It can't be done—and our people can't do it!"

(Continued on page 2)

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## BRANCH STORE NEWS

### FLATBUSH

Accolations to all of you who helped put Flatbush over the top in the March of Dimes drive . . . Congratulations to the victorious Union officers. Now that the smoke of battle is over, let us all unite behind our officers in the fight to build a stronger union, gain better working conditions and fatter pay envelopes for us all . . . In the Flatbush elections the following were victorious: Frieda Pariser, Chairman; Fred Kramer, Vice Chairman; Tony Biondo, Secretary and Pat Anastasia, Welfare Board . . . Our annual party, February 9th at the Brooklyn Brass Rail was a howling success and a gay time was had by the several hundred who attended. The committee that helped put this affair over consisted of Dorothy Lichtenstein, Rhoda Vlack, Gertrude Green, Pat Anastasia, Ellie Schneider and Jim Gerian. All officers of the Union attended and helped make it a wonderful evening . . . Riva Lowenstein (Millinery) is wreathed in smiles because she's just celebrated another anniversary and because her husband just achieved his Ph.D. and now can be addressed as "Doctor" . . . Congrats to Esther Sobel (Coats) on her daughter's engagement . . . Good luck to Sylvia O'Connell (Gloves) now honeymooning . . . Were you among those selected for the new group organized by Doty Lichtenstein, Rhoda Vlack and Gertrude Green and who call the new setup the "Selected Fifties"? Watch for more about it . . .



Rose Nagler

### WHITE PLAINS

JIM HELERINGER RE-ELECTED CHAIRMAN! That is the big news in the WP division. February 1st, the largest turnout in White Plains history cast their ballots in a spirited election. The result was a vote of confidence in Jim's militant leadership. Pete Gilhooly, Jim's rival for the Chairmanship, conducted a vigorous campaign and was defeated by a small margin. He is to be complimented for his sincere but unsuccessful efforts. The slate headed by Chairman Jim also elected Fred Ernst, a competent and loyal Shop Steward as Vice Chairman. A newcomer to the Board, Fred has proved himself a capable trade unionist in all his union activities. A former professional baseball player, Fred managed our softball team last season. Congratulations and best wishes, Fred. Helen Ruderman, the other re-elected member of the Store Committee has proved herself in her years of service as a Shop Steward and Secretary of the Board. The first woman ever elected to the White Plains Board, she has done an outstanding job. Jim is starting his third term on the Board. Previously he has served as Vice Chairman and Chairman. In an interview, Jim modestly expressed his appreciation that the people have again called upon him to serve them. As President Kovenetsky said at the meeting, "These elections are healthy for Local 1-S!"



Bill Bittner

### PARKCHESTER

My heartfelt thanks to my many friends for all their kind thoughts in my hours of deepest sorrow. They will not be forgotten . . . Edith Rubino of Cosmetics is expecting a blessed event . . . Ann McNamara, telephone operator, has just become the very proud grandmother of a baby girl. Congratulations, Ann . . . Sorry to have to report that Elsie Lifshay is out ill. We wish her a speedy recovery . . . Parkchester members can feel proud of the job they did in the recent March of Dimes collection. There were still some weak spots, but by and large it was wonderful . . . Our Parkchester Divisional Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9th at the Chester House. Coming in the middle of negotiations, this meeting gives us all a chance to show management that we are completely united in our determination to win the things we need and have earned. Everyone owes it to herself to be at the meeting. Another important part of our agenda will be the election of our Store Committee . . . Al Smith, Catherine Hallihan and Florence Donahue have served us for the last couple of years and have spared themselves nothing in an effort to meet our needs and protect our contract. We appreciate all that they have done, and we thank them.



Fay Mattimiro

### JAMAICA

Congratulations and good wishes to Chris Murphy upon the graduation of her son Alan from Colgate University. He merges with the U.S. Air Force in June as a 2nd Lieutenant . . . Congratulations to Edna Nerenberg. It's a 7lb. 4oz. granddaughter. Paula Beth—born January 24th . . . Joe Vendetti, formerly of Sportswear, left the store on February 1st to start on a new career. Joe will work in the laboratory at Colgate-Palmolive . . . Ann O'Brien also left us to take a full time job of mothering her newly adopted daughter. Much happiness to both of them . . . It's wedding bells for Charlie Krieger of Boys Clothing. (The Flying Kriegers, as they are known) flew to France to be married. They'll spend a three week honeymoon in Paris. Good luck to you, Charlie—and your bride. Charlie's mother, Charlotte, flew back from Florida last week . . . Niela Jaroff of J4 Alterations was proud to tell of her husband's appearance on Ed Sullivan's Toast of the Town Show on February 15th. Niela's hubby is the conductor of the Don Cossack Chorus, which wins the admiration of all who see and hear it . . . Charlotte Vogel is convalescing after her recent illness and hopes to be back with us soon. Ditto Carrie Pederson . . . Had a fine response to our March of Dimes campaign. Congratulations to all who helped make it a huge success . . . Congratulations to our recently re-elected Store Committee members—Tony LaSalvia, Ed Hansell and Chris Murphy. They're wonderful!

# Macy Able to Pay...

(Continued from page 1)

"Since 1939 there has been a tremendous reduction of executive staff and many of their duties have become additional staff work. But there has also been a reduction in non-executive staff. And that means that the people now on the job are turning out more work than ever before.

"We are not going to live on peanuts in order to subsidize Macy's so that you can make a profit!"

### Macy Angles

Added Vice President Phil Hoffstein, "Macy's has many angles for making money. If you don't make it one way, you make it another. But we have only one way—and that is by our work for you. We want to be paid what we're worth—and we are worth more than you are paying us."

And Vice President Bill Atkinson lashed at the company as he said, "Let's get something very straight. The past increases we have won from you were based largely on steady increases in the cost of living. Those raises barely helped us hold our own. But, for the time being, prices are steadier

and Macy's is looking forward to increased profits.

"We aim to get a part of those increased profits so that we can get our heads above water. For years we have been on a treadmill. This year maybe we will be able to slightly improve ourselves!"

Attorney Asher Schwartz cut Macy's plea against being a "pacesetter" to shreds as he told the company that, "We must end this vicious cycle of winning a raise from Macy's—then having the other stores follow in our footsteps—only to have Macy's turn around to us at the next negotiations and point to the other stores as the pattern makers.

"Over the years we have set the pattern. We have always regarded Macy's as a step ahead of all others, and we want to maintain that lead!"

### Grim Reminder

Macy's spokesman had indicated the company's position on only three of the Union's twelve demands as the second session in the tournament of words neared its end. Before the meeting was adjourned, however, President Kovenetsky tossed one last bomb-

shell in Macy's lap as he told them that, "In November of 1940 a two-and-a-half week strike at Gimbels established the 40-hour week. In January of 1941 Macy's willingly went along and cut hours from 45 to 40 in an attempt to keep the Union out.

"The Gimbel workers set the pace in 1940. We'll do it through negotiations in 1955 or we will use their methods in 1956!"

With that declaration the Union's leaders went back to the job of preparing for the next round in the bitter battle for higher pay, shorter hours and other gains important to the security and well-being of every man and woman who draws a Macy pay check.

## Reservations Being Taken For Bargain Vacation

Once again Local 1-S' close association with the Greater New York Fund promises to pay big dividends to Union members interested in a fine and inexpensive vacation for themselves and their families.

Through the Greater New York Fund Local 1-S is able to offer a two week vacation for families with children from 3 to 8 years of age.

The non-profit, non-sectarian Bronx House-Emanuel Camp is located at Copake, New York, in the foot-hills of the Berkshire Mountains. It has a professionally supervised day camp for the children and a full sports and recreation program for adults, and welcomes campers regardless of race, creed or religion.

The fee is based on family income and ranges from \$12 a person per week and up.

Each vacation period is for two weeks, according to the following schedule:

Trip	Dates
Trip 1	Tues., June 28 to Mon., July 11
Trip 2	Tues., July 12 to Mon., July 25
Trip 3	Tues., July 26 to Mon., Aug. 8
Trip 4	Tues., Aug. 9 to Mon., Aug. 22
Trip 5	Tues., Aug. 23 to Mon., Sept. 5

Because of the great popularity enjoyed by the Bronx House-Emanuel Camp among working families, application must be made early.

If you are interested, send your name and staff number, along with your wife's name and the age of each of your children, and the vacation period you prefer, to Local 1-S, Camp Program.

All applications must be received on or before March 10, 1955—and the sooner you send them in, the better your chances of being accepted.

Altogether there are accommodations for 88 families. Look after yours by acting NOW!

## 1-S LEADERS HAIL LABOR UNITY; STORE ORGANIZING HEADS LIST



AFL's George Meany

With the ultimate and complete merger of the CIO and AFL over the big hurdle of "agreement in principle", unorganized white collar and department store workers should be eager in their anticipation of the first fruits of this historic event.

"The great mass of white collar workers who need to better their conditions" was singled out by AFL President George Meany as a prime organizing target when the two sections of the American trade union movement combine their talent, strength and resources.

[Local 1-S, in anticipation of a dramatic upsurge in the organizing of the unorganized, already has a full-time organizer in the field. See story on Page 4.]

The AFL's James A. Suffridge, Secretary-Treasurer of the Retail Clerks International Association expressed the belief that joint organizing efforts may come about in the retail field through a "formal or informal council" of unions involved, "joined together for work and cooperation."



CIO's Walter Reuther

Local 1-S President Sam Kovenetsky, who has frequently expressed approval of all previous efforts aimed at merger, said:

"It is my strong conviction that every worker in the country will benefit from the realization of the merger talks now taking place.

"There can be no doubt that our economic and political strength will multiply when all of us are working together towards the same end. Any organizational form that results in the establishment of a single union with 15,000,000 members deserves our approval and support.

"It is to be expected that CIO—in continuance of its established policy—will insist upon, and obtain, agreement providing for the full participation of all workers without discrimination or segregation.

"Local 1-S will be proud to participate in what may well become labor's newest and greatest crusade."

### HELP!

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at the  
UNION OFFICE  
Every Wednesday  
From 5 to 7 P.M.

### LOCAL 1-S NEWS

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# Executive Board Hears Reports...

(Continued from page 1)

Vice President in Charge of Organization John Riffe in a continuing effort to determine where and in what manner Local 1-S can make its greatest contribution to the labor movement in general and department store workers in particular. (For additional details see story on merger on Page 2).

## Negotiations

Reporting on the progress of negotiations to date Vice President Bill Atkinson told the Board that Macy's attitude can be summed up by saying that, "Macy's wants to be the pacesetter on profits but not on wage increases or reduction of hours."

Cautioning that "1956 is a year of great importance to us because we are the only store with a contract due to expire", the Vice President asserted that, "only by determined collective action can we win in 1955 and successfully prepare for a complete victory in 1956!"

## Organizing

In his first report to the Board as the General Organizer of Local 1-S, George Gurian described his work in Nassau, Suffolk and Westchester Counties and the survey being conducted among 1-S members. (For additional details see story on Page 4).

He was joined by President Kovenetsky in an appeal to the Board for maximum cooperation. Said the President, "You don't have to be a trained organizer. If you are convinced that you are right—just follow through—and you will be the most educated organizers in the world. That's the stuff that labor's crusades have been made of!"

## V-Plus

In response to a question from the floor, President Kovenetsky and Vice President Phil Hoffstein stated the Union's position on Macy's V-Plus campaign. They said:

"Number one, Macy's cannot insist that any Union member rate an executive. Any instance in which this is done should be reported to the Union immediately. "Number two, contractually the company does have the right to have executives sell for instructional purposes so long as that executive has a Union member standing by."

Macy's, the Union's leaders announced, had withdrawn the rating plan only after it had been sharply attacked by the Union.

## Political Action

PAC Chairman Charles Boyd advised the Board that the com-

mittee was preparing to back with a concrete action program President Kovenetsky's call for a conference to further the fight for the \$1.25 an hour minimum and inclusion of the retail industry. (See Page 1.)

## Trials

Charges were brought against 940 Department Shop Steward Estelle Sage for "violation of Union rules" and against Marlin Wohl for "activities detrimental to the Union and its members".

The charges will be heard on March 8th by a Trial Committee consisting of Ann Arata, 2nd Floor David Greenberg, 7th Floor; Beatrice Montgomery, 4th Floor; Ann Gutowski, 2nd Floor; and Ann Muller, Street Floor.

# Need Supports Union Demands...

(Continued from page 1)

for having successfully fought to keep up with cost of living increases. They don't mention that first we started from a sub-standard wage and second that they were unwilling to grant even those demands and that it took a strike and a couple of arbitrators awards for us to just hold our own while prices of all essentials skyrocketed.

**This year, for the first time since a Republican Congress killed price controls in 1946, prices have held steady and we have a chance to apply a wage victory to a slight betterment of our way of life.**

Generally speaking, workers in other organized industries have already negotiated wages increases for 1955. These agreements have reflected both their demand for a higher standard of living and their increased productivity.

In Macy's—as in most industries—worker productivity has risen and the same number of workers (or fewer, in some cases) are turning out more work which results in higher profits than ever before.

*Morally and economically there is every justification for your demand for a raise. We need it to help provide for a measure of the security to which our years of labor entitle us. Macy's only basis for not immediately agreeing to the justness of this demand is the unquenchable thirst for more and more and still more profits!*

## Higher Minimums

Suddenly Macy's pretends concern for you. In his kindest voice Mr. Fischer tells the negotiators that if the company spends money for higher minimums it does no good for the people who are already in the store — so why bother?


The answer is simple. As President Sam Kovenetsky pointed out in his State of the Union report, "... only when the newest worker in the store enjoys a living wage can the more senior people enjoy the full measure of security that comes with knowing that the company has been denied an incentive for trying to encourage rapid turnover and the replacement of those long service workers with new, much lower paid employees."

Said Albert Brown, a Wash-room Porter and comparative newcomer to Macy's and Local 1-S, "\$38 a week just isn't a living wage. By the time you pay for fares and lunches there's next to nothing left."

Added Marianna Bonomo of Infantswear, "Higher minimums mean increases all along the line and more security for all of us."

## Good and Welfare

President Kovenetsky reported that as a result of Local 1-S activity and pressure the Greater New York Fund was preparing to increase labor representation on its Board of Directors to include a spokesman for Local 1-S; that the Red Cross in Nassau County won its fight against the County Medical Society's private profit blood bank plan with the active aid of 1-S Education Director and Editor Dick Pastor; that an inexpensive plan for insuring rent and mortgage payments, proposed by Parkchester's Al Smith, was being studied; and that the Union's Welfare Board would be on hand at the Union office on Wednesday evenings to render all possible assistance to the membership.



If you . . .  
your husband  
or wife . . .  
or children . . .  
or parents  
**NEED BLOOD**  
**FROM THE BLOOD BANK**  
all you have to do is  
**CALL WA 4-4540**  
And Rest Assured That  
**Local 1-S Will Do the Rest**

## New Board

The following are the members elected to their Divisional Committees and Executive Board at Divisional Meetings held up to February 21st. \* denotes Committee member not on the Board:

### White Plains

James Heleringer  
Fred Ernst  
Helen Ruderman

### Jamaica

Anthony LaSalvia  
Edward Hansell  
Chris Murphy

### Flatbush

Frieda Pariser  
Fred Kramer  
Anthony Biondo

### Basement

Elvio Cotti  
Tania Shostak  
Eleanor Philips

### Street Floor

Jack Steinman  
Helen Boyle  
Ann Muller

### 3rd Floor

Ceil Curry  
Esther Greenberg  
Katherine Blatt

### 4th Floor

Mary Boyd  
Ceil Alperin  
Beatrice Montgomery

### 5th Floor

Jerome Harte  
Irving Smooke  
Ann Berman

### 8th Floor

Charles Boyd  
Marion Cook  
Dorothea Andrews\*

### Controllers

Ruby Butcher  
John Witch  
Richard Moore

### Ad.-Display, B of S

Adam Graham  
Bernard Devlin  
Jack Weiner

### Comparison

Madeline Lawder  
William Hardy  
Mary Walsh

### Packing

Helene Roberts  
William Carey  
Augustine Tomkins

### Alteration & Repair

Harry Leibowitz  
Mary Delfino

### Housekeeping

Raymond Peer  
John Clifford

**You Can Be  
Proud to Wear a  
LOCAL 1-S  
UNION BUTTON  
Get Yours Today!  
Only 50 cents  
At the Union Office**

## Back the Blood Bank!

With the annual Blood Bank drive rapidly approaching it would be well and wise to recall the many who have had occasion to turn to the Bank for help during the last ten months.

We list the names of the members (and the number of pints that have been released to them—either for themselves or a covered member of their family) because we believe that they are the best boosters a Blood Bank can ever hope to have.

We are sure they (together with those exempt and executive personnel to whom Macy's released more than 100 pints) join with us in saying, "You can never tell if or when you will need the Bank. So be sure to sign up when the time comes."

	# of Pints
Eugene Asta	3
Angela Attolini	1
Elsie Adolphus	2
Florence Burge	1
Mavis Beckles	1
Mary Brockume	1
Johanna Bohannon	2
Dorothy Bader	5
Kathleen Cullen	2
Mary Cervone	3
Josephine Casbarro	2
Dolores Caserma	2
Ann Contrada	2
Ida Covi	2
Robert Campbell	2
Ora Campbell	2
Emma Dette	2
Andrew Duggan	7
Ada Edelhauser	2
A. Friedman	1
Frank Freeman	6
Frank Gallucci	18
Anna Graber	3
Dora Graf	2
Helen Guendel	1
Cecelia Gonet	2
Barbara Guggenheim	2
Stacia Glynn	1
Henrietta Greenberger	2
Regina Hall	2
Catherine Higgins	5
Frieda Hollender	3
Mary Hudak	9
Augusta Heinzen	2
Martha Horn	1
Stephanie Horton	4
Bridie Hannafin	3
Thomas Henderson	3
O. Henry	1
Samuel Herbst	2
Joyce Jones	3
Louise Jones	1
Vincent Krystaforsti	1
Gilbert Kurty	2
John Kearns	2
Elizabeth Klein	1
Thelma Kasuto	5
Rose Kelly	1
Barbara Lambert	7
Concetta Libassi	1
James Mickens	4
D. P. Mapes	1
John McConville	1
Jane McNulty	2
Isabelle McGuire	3
Therese McNamara	1
Dominick Paniccia	3
Sidna Peluso	1
Albert Phillips	1
Frances Petluck	3
Cesarina Pacini	2
H. Broderick Quinn	2
Frank Queen	3
Mary Rothman	2
Santa Rencricca	2
Yolanda Rich	1
Doris Ryan	1
Elsie Stegeland	1
James Sullivan	2
Maude Stubing	1
Aino Sarapun	1
Julius Schneider	2
D. Schneeclaus	1
Edward Syper	2
Carl Shurley	1
Claire Saslaff	1
Nicholas Tedesco	5
Frances Torkinski	1
Rosalie Vigilante	1
David Weisskoff	1
Ethel Whitehead	2
Harriet Yerns	1



## MEMBERS ASKED FOR CONTACTS AS ORGANIZING DRIVE STARTS

Local 1-S, having assigned ex-vice president George Gurian to the full-time job of organizing the unorganized, has begun to move ahead in this vital direction.

General Organizer Gurian reports that a preliminary survey among Union members gives every indication of getting the Union's drive off to a solid start.

The first phase of the survey is being conducted among more than 1000 1-S'ers who live in Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk Counties.

Bidding them to make available the names of "friends, relatives, acquaintances or neighbors" working in department stores in those areas, George Gurian wrote that:

"To provide greater-than-ever protection for YOU, Local 1-S is planning a step-by-step campaign to organize the unorganized."

"Our success in this effort is essential if we are to once and for all stop Macy's from using non-union wages and working conditions as a comparison with the standards we have already won—and as a means of trying to defeat us in the fight for a still better contract."

Enclosed with the letter is a card on which the member can give the name of the person, the unorganized store in which he or she works, and other pertinent data.

### Others Can Help

While we have directed this first survey at those members who live in areas where most stores are unorganized, said Brother Gurian, "we by no means intend to ignore the fact that other members may know people who work in those sections."

"We urge all members of Local 1-S to cooperate with this drive. Initially this means turning over to us the names of contacts who can give us important data about the stores in which they work and

who may be interested in working actively with us."

The Union's General Organizer has already met with the CIO Councils of Westchester, Nassau and Suffolk Counties and with members of the Local 1-S volunteer organizing committee in the White Plains store.

### Most Important

President Sam Kovenetsky appealed to all members to back this organizing campaign in every possible way. He said, "All of us can readily understand the importance of organizing the unorganized and helping them to achieve union standards in wages, working conditions and job security. Our own future gains will

## What's New?

Macy's is full of interesting people. Not just theater folk and artists of other description, but parents who are justly proud of a child's outstanding accomplishments and men and women with unique skills and hobbies and interests.

In their quiet ways these people go about their job of being good workers and good Union members. But the fact remains that they are different. They have done—and in many cases still do—different things with their lives than most.

We think our readers would like an occasional glimpse into the lives of such members. And we in turn would like to bring such stories to you—if we can get you to help.

All we would like you to do is to let us know of any such people. Give us his or her name and department and an idea of why you think others would be interested. Just drop a card to the Local 1-S NEWS, 290 Seventh Avenue, New York—we will do the rest.



Organizer Gurian

depend to a certain extent on our organizing accomplishments.

"We have, in this drive, the opportunity to advance our own interests while at the same time helping others."

"I urge every Executive Board member, every Shop Steward and every alert rank-and-file member to cooperate. Give us the names of contacts, the stores in which they work and we'll do the rest."

"Nothing could be simpler, yet nothing is more important. Do YOUR share in helping to organize the unorganized!"

## 1-S Accident Lawyer Named to State Labor Post

Mr. Joseph DeFede, known to many members of Local 1-S as one of the finest lawyers to ever represent a worker before the Workmen's Compensation Board, has been named by Governor Harriman to the post of Chairman of the New York State Board of Mediation of the State Labor Relations Board.

On learning of the appointment, President Sam Kovenetsky said, "Based on the excellence of his work and the sound human principles that guide him, it is difficult to think of a better candidate. Governor Harriman is to be congratulated for his selection and Mr. DeFede has our warmest wishes in his new undertaking."

## OFFICIAL NOTICE Divisional Meeting Schedule

This is the only official notice to be given for Divisional Meetings for all members including Saturday-onlies and Fractionals.

Part-Time and Full-Time workers will meet at the same time for the purpose of electing Executive

Board representatives from all divisions.

Admission will be by 1954 '55 Union card. An unexcused absence will be liable to a \$2 assessment to the Welfare Fund as provided for in Article IX, Section of the Local 1-S Constitution.

GROUP	DATE	TIME	PLACE
DA-CT	Tues. Mar. 1	6:30 P.M.	Auditorium
6 Floor	Wed. Mar. 2	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
7 Floor	Fri. Mar. 4	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
Supply	Tues. Mar. 8	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
2 Floor	Wed. Mar. 9	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
Parkchester	Wed. Mar. 9	6:30 P.M.	Chester House
Food Dept.	Fri. Mar. 11	7:15 P.M.	Auditorium
9 Floor	Tues. Mar. 15	6:45 P.M.	Auditorium
ASD	Wed. Mar. 16	6:30 P.M.	Auditorium

All meetings, except those of the Branch Stores, are to be held at the Union office, 290 7th Ave. (Between 26 and 27th Streets).

## Steward Meeting Calendar

ASD	1st Tuesday of every month	6:15 PM
Controllers	1st Wednesday of every month	6:15 PM
PAC	1st Wednesday of every month	7:00 PM
Ad., Display, Bofs, Comp.	1st Thursday of every month	6:15 PM
DA	3rd Wednesday of every month	7:00 PM
PAC	2nd Tuesday of every month	6:15 PM
Receiving	Wed., March. 16, 6:45 PM.	Conference Room
Packing, Food, Supply, Alterations, Repair, Housekeeping,	M T E Tues., Mar. 22	6:45 PM

## PERSONALS

FOR SALE—Ladies white roller shoe skates, with case, size 6. \$12. Man's black roller shoe skates with case, size 8½. \$15. Phone SY 2-0655 at any time.

FOR SALE—Biltrite baby carriage, crib and mattress and stroller. Will sell as unit or separately. Phone DI 2-3016 after 6PM.

FOR SALE—Cocktail table in cordovan mahogany, 2 end tables, lamps. Almost new. Reasonable. Phone LO 7-3006 at any time.

FOR RENT—Lovely furnished bedroom with two windows. Adjacent bath, use of living room, TV and piano and kitchen privileges. Midtown Manhattan, west side. Phone UN 5-5063 before 8AM or after 9PM.

Personal ads for the Local 1-S NEWS must be received at the Union office by the 1st or 15th day of each month. Ads received on the 1st will appear in the issue dated the 15th. Those received on the 15th will appear in the issue dated the 1st of the following month. This is offered as a service to members of Local 1-S and there is no charge for personal ads.

MEDICAL PLAN—For the name and address of the doctor, dentist, optometrist or podiatrist nearest you CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540 or Associated Physicians Medical Group—BU 8-4210 (Night or Day). Complete schedule of fees available upon request.

BLOOD BANK—If you need blood from the Blood Bank CALL the Union Office—WA 4-4540.

## TO THE EDITOR

### GREAT HELP

I wish to thank the young ladies of the Union office and the Health Plan and especially our President for their kindness to me in regard to my husband's having been hospitalized last November and again in January.

Their advice was a great help. I am very grateful.

Sincerely,

Adelaide Kahn, 42 Dept.

### THANKFUL

Received your card and book and I am very thankful to you for sending them to me while I am convalescing. I remain,

Respectfully,

M. Hackey, 3 Dept.

### THOUGHTFULNESS

Received card and book. Many thanks for same and for your thoughtfulness to a fellow member. It gives one the feeling of "belonging".

Thanks,

A. Singer, 78 Dept.

### THREE PINTS

Just a few lines to thank you for the three pints of blood you sent to the hospital when I needed them for my recent operation. Also wish to express my thanks for the card and book, which were also greatly appreciated.

With kind personal regards.

Very truly yours,

Thomas Henderson,

### TWICE

Twice during the past two months it has been necessary to call upon you for assistance. Both times your service has been courteous, prompt and efficient.

On this last occasion, my husband needed blood transfusions and you promptly replaced the blood. All your services have been complete.

For all your help, I am very grateful. I wish to express my deepest and sincere thanks.

Very truly yours,

Bridie Hannafin, 103 Dept.

### KINDNESS

I'm writing to thank you for the lovely book I received from you.

I certainly do appreciate your kindness in remembering me. I'm sure that I will enjoy it very much.

Sincerely,

Ruth Scanlon, 103 Dept.

## March of Dimes Donations Rise; Still Coming In

With a few Shop Stewards yet to be heard from, the Local 1-S annual March of Dimes neared the \$2200 mark early in February.

All but \$150 of the total will be presented directly to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis as a grateful acknowledgment of the care given the victims of Polio and the work being done towards the elimination of this dread disease. The smaller sum, representing the amount contributed in the White Plains store, will be presented to the Foundation's Westchester Chapter in appreciation for the care given stricken members of Local 1-S from that area.

## New Health Plan Book

A new Health Plan book will be available at the Union office on March 15th.

The revised book brings all Health Plan benefits completely up to date—including details of diagnostic care now covered by insurance.

For information or claim forms, call the Health Plan Consultant at the Union office.

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